MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

KNIGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer's Report for 1950

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1950.

Population. The population of the Urban District, as estimated by the Registrar-General at 30th June, 1950, was 1,865.

Housing. (a) Overcrowding. The position is similar to that referred to in my last report and there are only very few cases of overcrowding in the district.

(b) General. The 10 houses at the Ludlow Road Site, the building of which commenced in 1949, have now been completed and are in occupation. A further 8 houses are in course of erection on this site and consent has been obtained to the appropriation of a portion of the garden allotments as a site for the erection of 6 houses.

Transport. The transport services provided appear to be adequate for the neighbourhood. It is understood that one firm of operators is to carry out extensive works of reconstruction at their Omnibus Station.

Schools. The playing field at the County Secondary Modern School is being extended to provide additional facilities for the pupils and a dwellinghouse for the Caretaker has been erected. The Primary School in West Street should be brought into line with present day standards.

Cemetery. The number of burial spaces available in the consecrated portion of the Cemetery is being reduced and the time can be foreseen when it will be necessary for other provision to be made.

National Health Service. The dispensing of medicines has become satisfactory and nursing facilities are available as necessary.

Water Supply. 12 analyses of water supplied for domestic use were made during the year. These proved the water to be of excellent organic purity but of a slightly corrosive nature. As a result of intermittent contamination, certain protective works have been carried out to prevent pollution at the source of supply. Thirteen dwellinghouses were connected to the supply during the year; the number of dwellinghouses supplied from public mains (a) direct to houses - 562 (1768 persons); (b) by means of stand-pipes - 8 (23 persons).

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. The sewerage system and purification plant are functioning satisfactorily. The works are kept in very good condition but some minor repairs are necessary.

Refuse Disposal. House refuse continues to be satisfactorily dealt with both as regards collection and incineration. It would be reasonable to require householders to provide covered and impervious receptacles in which to deposit refuse for collection.

Markets. The town retains its importance as a centre for the marketing of livestock and the provision of a 6 tons capacity dial weighing machine has added to the popularity of the recently reconstructed Livestock Market.

Car Park. The centrally situated Car Park was brought into use in May 1950 and has accommodation for nearly 200 vehicles. The reconstruction work has reached an advanced stage.

Town Hall. The premises (formerly The Vicarage) have been reconstructed and are in use as Offices of the Council.

Infectious Diseases. There were 7 cases of infectious disease notified, viz: Poliomyelitis 2; Measles 1; Scarlet Fever 1 and 3 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Public Health. The following is a summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector:-

	Houses	Factories & Work-shops	Common Lodging Houses	Knackers Yard & Slaughter-house	TOTAL
Inspections made	107	68	24	49	248
Defects remedied	31	4	2	2	39

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	141	31	20	3567	29
Number inspected before slaughter	141	31	20	1040	29
Number inspected after slaughter	141	31	20	3567	29
All Diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	3	3	1	35	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	44	12	1	179	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	33	50	10	6	-
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	-	1	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	7	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2	26	-	-	7

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply. Dairies are regularly inspected and are generally satisfactory. Improvements have been carried out at one dairy as a result of informal action.

(b) Meat and Other Foods. Byelaws as to hygienic handling etc. of food, made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into force on 26th June, 1950. All local food shops (50 in number), delivery vans and stalls have been inspected and the Proprietors supplied with a copy of the Byelaws. The standard of cleanliness is generally high but in certain cases the Sanitary Inspector has drawn attention to matters or practices contravening the Byelaws and these have been remedied.

Cow Pox. The scarcity attended Cow Pox was brought into use in May 1910 and has accomodation for nearly 200 vaccines. The inoculation work has reached an advanced stage.

Town Hall. The Tenement (formerly The Vicarage) have been refurbished and are in use as offices of the Council.

Infectious Diseases. There were 7 cases of infectious disease notified, viz: Scarlet Fever 1; Measles 1; Scarlet Fever 1 and 3 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Public Health. The following is a summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector:-

	Houses & Work-shops	Piggeries Dairies Cowsheds Lodging Houses	Slaughter-houses	Bakehouses Vans Tents	TOTAL
Inspections made	107	68	24	46	245
Defects remedied	31	4	3	2	39

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	141	31	80	3267	39
Number inspected before slaughter	141	31	80	1060	39
Number inspected after slaughter	141	31	80	3267	39
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	3	3	1	38	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	24	12	1	172	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	38	50	10	6	-
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	-	1	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	7	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8	26	-	-	7

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply. Dairies are regularly inspected and are generally satisfactory. Improvements have been carried out at one dairy as a result of internal action.

(b) Meat and other Foods. Bylaws as to hawking, handling, etc. of food, made under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into force on 6th June, 1939. All local food shops (60 in number), dairies, cowsheds and stalls have been inspected and the Inspectors supplied with a copy of the Bylaws. The sanitary of slaughtermen is generally kept but in certain cases the Sanitary Inspector has drawn attention to defects or practices contravening the bylaws and these have been rectified.

(c) Food Poisoning. There was one case of food poisoning during the year. Source could not be determined but was probably due to tinned salmon.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) J.S.I. CHESSHIRE,